EXPRESS MAIL mailing label No. EF024292042US Deposited November 20, 2003

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a request for an application under 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor(s) Erich RAUCH, et al

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MELTING A METAL

Enclosed are:

- [X] 24 pages, Abstract, specification, claims; Power of Attorney, Petition; signed declaration (1 page) attached to application
- [X] 2 A4 size soft sheets of formal drawings (Figs. 1-3) attached to application,
- [X] Small Business Concern's Statement, signed by Mr. Peter Rauh CEO of Ing. Rauch Fertigungstechnik GmbH, owner of all rights.
- [X] Express Mail mailing label no. EF024292042US deposited November 20, 2003
- [X] A certified copy of a German Patent Application 102 56 513.9 filed December 4, 2002
- [X] Information Disclosure Statement, German Patent Office Search Report, PTO-1449 and 7 references

| <u>Claims as Filed</u> | | | | | |
|------------------------|----|-----------------|-----------------|------|------------------------|
| | | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA | RATE | BASIC FEE \$385.00≉ |
| TOTAL CLAIMS | 39 | -20= | 19 | \$ 9 | 171.00 ** |
| INDEPENDENT CLAIMS | 6 | -3= | 3 | \$43 | 129.00 |

*(SMALL ENTITY FEE)

\$685.00

- [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any/or additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No.06-0105.
- [X] A check no. 15621 in the amount of \$685.00 (small entity fee) to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- [X] CLAIM IS HEREBY MADE OF THE BENEFIT OF THE FILING DATE OF THE German Patent Application 102 56 513.9 filed December 4, 2002 UNDER 35 USC 119.

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